



Amherst Medical Reserve Corps
AMHERST HEALTH DEPARTMENT
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September 2005 Amherst MRC Updates

NEWS:

- **Welcome!**

We have two new MRC members. Welcome to Barbara Corrigan, RN & Pam Aselton, RNP.

- **Amherst MRC Leadership Roles**

The Amherst MRC staff have started conducting interviews for an MRC Leadership Board. The roles will involve leadership within both the organization/structure of the Amherst MRC and leadership in actual operations and within the incident command system. The board will work together as a team to solidify the sustainability of our MRC organization. Specific individuals may take on areas of focus including (but not limited to): recruitment, sustainability, medical operations, community liaison, public health outreach, and MRC training. The Leadership Board will meet once per month in addition to the regular MRC training. **If you are interested please sign up on the sheet or send an email to Kate.**

- **Work in Progress: Fall Flu Clinic/Drill** ☆ *Super important!!* ☆

Our October 17 training will be a collaboration with the Department of Public Health. The topic will be Emergency Dispensing Sites (EDS) including details about Amherst's sites, information about some communicable diseases, and specifics regarding the flu vaccine. We will hold a flu clinic/emergency dispensing site drill and senior health fair on Saturday, November 19. Set up will begin at 7am and we plan to be cleaned up by 12:30 at the latest. **We will need MRC members to dispense medication and to staff the concurrent health fair. Anyone who plans to be involved on Saturday, November 19 please sign up on the sign up sheet or by email with Kate so that we can plan for staffing. It is imperative that volunteers attend the October 17 training in order to participate in the dispensing clinic. Thank you! We need folks to be involved in coordinating the Health Fair. Please sign up or email Kate if interested.**

- **MRC Regional Conference**

MRC members are invited to a Regional MRC Sustainability Conference on Wednesday and Thursday, October 5-6, 2005 that is being held on the Cape. Please let Kate know if you are interested and might be able to attend. (I have already reminded the organizers, who apologized, that this is a conflict with Jewish holidays but as far as I know they have been unable to change the date.)

- **Upcoming Training Opportunities:**

Local Public Health and the Law: Preparing for the Likely Prepares us for the Unlikely 9:30am-4:00pm November 21 at Worcester DCU. **Contact Kate if interested so that we can register as a group.**

Introduction to Animals in Disasters 9am-4pm October 26 at UMass Mullins Center. **Ask Kate for a registration form.**

- **THANK YOU**

...to the 10 Amherst MRC members and staff who attended the Incident Command for Public Health course at GCC and to the 8 MRC members who recently became certified or recertified their CPR for Professional rescuer. Thanks also to new member Bruce Fuller for co-instructing that course.

ONGOING:

- **MRC ID Badges**

New members or anyone who has not had an ID badge photo taken: Please call or email Theresa Laizer at Amherst College Dining Services to set up an appointment. 413-542-5820 talaizer@amherst.edu

- **Public Access Defib Project**

We have raised \$700 thus far. If you have more ideas about folks or organizations in the community to whom a donation request could be sent or are willing to help with this community project by becoming a CPR instructor, please let Kate know.

- **HHAN Training**

New members or anyone who has not had HHAN training: Please arrange with Kate to borrow a training CD.

- **Work in Progress: UMass MRC**

Josh and Kate still working as partners with a group from the University Health Service and the Schools of Nursing and Public Health. The group hopes to create a University and/or 5-College MRC that will partner with the Amherst MRC for trainings, responses, etc.

- **National Incident Management System Online Training**

For anyone who was not present for the May NIMS training, please complete the IS-700 training module online at <http://training.fema.gov/> Scroll down to "New Courses." Warning: it's dry...but it's the standard that is being pushed across the country in emergency response groups and we need to comply.

- **National Core Competency Committee**

Please give Kate feedback regarding our trainings or priorities for MRC trainings on the national level. I will be representing the northeast region on a national core competency work group.

UPCOMING MRC MEETINGS & TRAININGS:

Monday, October 17, 2005 6:30pm @ Bangs Community Center *NOTE: Location may change to Middle School
Emergency Dispensing Sites & Mandatory Training for November 19 Flu Clinic/MRC Drill

Monday, November 14, 2005 6:30pm @ Bangs Community Center *NOTE: Location may change to larger venue
Weather Emergencies lecture by Glenn Field of NOAA

Saturday, November 19, 2005 7am-12pm @ Amherst Regional Middle School
Flu Clinic/ Emergency Dispensing Site Exercise/Senior Health Fair

Monday, December 12, 2005 6:30pm @ Bangs Community Center
Annual MRC Winter Potluck

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